(b) After its reconstitution, one meeting was held on 25.9.2000. During the years 1998 & 1999, no meeting was held as the Samiti was not in existence at that time.

(c) Decision has been taken to conduct its meetings regularly and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation will be convening the next meeting at an early date.

Hindi Translators/Officers in Ministry of Planning

2972. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Hindi Translators/Hindi Officers/ Assistants created in his Ministry and allied PSUs/Attached and Subordinate offices for propagation of Hindi as official language and encouragement of Hindi Correspondences;

(b) the number of such posts lying vacant and since when; and

(c) the reasons therefor, and the steps taken to fill up such vacancies urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The following posts are sanctioned to the Planning Commission for the propagation of Hindi as the official language and encouragement of Hindi Correspondence:—

Deputy Director ——01

Assistant Director ——01

Senior Hindi Translator ——02

Junior Hindi Translator ——06

The Commission does not have any allied PSU/Attached/ Subordinate Office.

(b) Two posts of Junior Hindi Translators are vacant since September, 1997 and February, 1999. Persons are already in position against the remaining eight posts.

(c) The posts of Junior Hindi Translators are filled through nominations of qualified candidates to be made by the Department of Official Language. One Candidate has already been nominated and he has been asked to join by 31.3.2001. For the second vacancy, a requisition has already been sent to the Department of Official Language and the nomination is yet to be made by them.

Old schemes under implementation

2973. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to revive the old schemes in the various States;

(b) whether there is a need to wind up the old schemes which have not produced the desired result;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government, in this regard;

(d) whether any new effective schemes are proposed to be introduced by Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The review of all Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes of various Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government is an on-going process. However, in the context of initiating work on the formulation of Tenth Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has requested all Central Ministries/Departments, to complete a review of all their schemes using, *inter alia*, zero-based budget methodology before deciding on their continuation in the next five year plan. Necessary instructions/guidelines in this regard have already been circulated. In addition, an exercise has also been initiated to bring about convergence and weeding out of related/similar schemes in all sectors with a view to improve the effectiveness of schemes, avoid